

LOU BARLETTA
11TH DISTRICT, PENNSYLVANIA

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July 17, 2017

The Honorable Elaine Chao
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing to you today on behalf of the Luzerne County Transportation Authority (LCTA), which has submitted an application for the Buses and Bus Facilities Infrastructure Investment Program (Bus and Bus Infrastructure Program).

The LCTA is seeking funding under the Bus and Bus Infrastructure Program in order to purchase four compressed natural gas (CNG) buses. The LCTA currently provides morning and afternoon bus and shared ride services to the City of Wilkes-Barre located in Luzerne County. The expansion of routes, experienced increase in the number of passengers, and expected continued rise in passenger volume has spiked demand for additional buses. Therefore, the LCTA is seeking funding through this program in order to purchase new, energy-efficient CNG buses. These buses will significantly reduce fuel costs, while providing much needed capacity to perform this basic public service.

As the former mayor of Hazleton, I recognize the difficult funding choices your agency faces. However, as a member of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, I also understand how important long-term investment in transportation is to the citizens of my district. Therefore, I would like to express my support for the LCTA's application and respectfully request that it receive your full and fair consideration.

Thank you for your kind attention to my request.

All my best,

Lou Barletta
Member of Congress